"Considering the great advantage that would result from securing the work on copper, and the ready means of multiplying correct copies of it when so secured, we would recommend that the plan of London and its suburbs should be engraved on copper; and we believe, should these recommendations be deemed worthy of adoption, and the plan be completed, that the inhabitants of London and its suburbs will be possessed of a document of great practical value to them for many purposes, and more especially important for their sanitary condition."

Lord Morpeth said that this was the proper time to mention that her Majesty's Government, having considered the representations of the Sanitary Commissioners as to the urgency of the demands for proceeding with an approved and authorised survey of the metropolis, and the loss of time that must occur in obtaining an Act of Parliament for the distribution of the necessary charges for a survey, containing all the particulars that might be eventually required in a complete survey, had considered that the triangulation and levelling, and the preparation of a block plan—the essential and most urgent portions of the survey—should be commenced, and as early as possible completed, under the direction of the Board of Ordnance, and that the expense of those portions of the work should be defrayed from the annual votes of Parliament, the execution of the survey in other parts of the kingdom being, in consequence, spread over a large portion of time.

Mr. Leslie felt much gratified at the announcement made by the noble lord. Pecuniary considerations were nothing compared with the delay that must arise in getting an Act of Parliament. He moved that the report and communication should be received and adopted.—Mr. R. L. Jones seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. Chadwick made a few remarks on the subject of the want of system in laying down drains—not being at proper levels—and said, however perfect the materials, without proper levels the best motives would be frustrated. From the want of system in the Holborn and Finsbury division, 260,000*l.* would be required to remedy the evil, which would make that amount almost thrown away. He was happy to say they had the assistance and co-operation of Sir H. de la Beche in forming the survey, who, being thoroughly conversant with the subjects of geological strata, the nature of springs, &c., a great deal of new matter would be, for the first time, introduced into a survey of this description, and, when completed, would be of infinite value, and worthy of this great metropolis.

In reference to the Greenwich Commission of Sewers, the clerk, in answer to Mr. R. L. Jones, said there was not a single sewer in Greenwich, although a body had existed denominated the Greenwich Commissioners of Sewers.

Mr. Byng wished to ask of Mr. Austin the amount of works proposed but not executed, in Surrey, by the late commission; or which, if executed, would be useless, or stand in the way of future improvement? — Mr. Austin said that at first 160,000*l.* were proposed to be raised for works, the greater part of which would stand in the way of improvement.—Mr. Byng: Was that amount all that was required to complete their works?—Mr. Austin replied that it was at first proposed to make 16 miles of main sewers, but eventually it was intended to make 100 miles in an area of 4 miles. By a general adoption of the converging principle of drainage, he thought a saving of between 300,000*l.* and 400,000*l.* might be made.—Mr. Byng: What sum would complete the drainage of the district on this principle?—Mr. Austin: 200,000*l.* would be sufficient to complete the same area of 4 miles.—A report was then ordered on the state of the works in hand.

A letter was received from Mr. Gwilt, one of the surveyors of the late Surrey and Kent commission, complaining that, after forty years of service, he was compelled to act under men junior to him in experience, and vindicating the system adopted in that division. A letter was ordered to be written to him, stating that if he felt that he could not consistently carry out the plans of the new commission, they should not decline receiving his resignation.

THE CITY SEWERS.—At a late meeting of the City Commissioners of Sewers, a report was read from a select committee who had been engaged in looking into the question of flushing sewers, and they recommended it should be adopted by way of trial in the eastern portion of the city. They also recommended the introduction of the engine that has been recently made with a view to empty cesspools in places not readily otherwise accessible: and this was also adopted. It was likewise recommended to build sewers in small courts and alleys, and to introduce the use of earthenware sewers, with a tank of water at the head of them, in these places. The court determined on proceeding at once with these works as an experiment.

THE FAILURE AT THE EUSTON-SQUARE STATION.

OUR remarks last week on the manner in which the inquiry, touching the cause of the much-to-be-regretted failure at the Euston-square station, had been conducted, will not be without avail.* The death of another of the workmen who were injured by the fall, led to a second inquest, which was opened on Thursday morning last, by Mr. Wakley, the coroner for Middlesex, at the University College Hospital.

Before entering on the inquiry, the Coroner remarked on the importance of arriving at a full and satisfactory knowledge of the cause of such accidents when they occurred, and inquired if there were any architects in the room ready to give the jury the benefit of their opinion in the present case.

Mr. Hardwick said, that the Company, and he personally, were most anxious that the cause of the accident should have the fullest investigation possible; he had, therefore, invited the attendance of Mr. E. Blore, Mr. Shaw, and Mr. Tite, who were then in the room, and would answer any questions that might be put to them.

The Coroner said he was very glad to hear it, as it was most desirable the truth should be arrived at. If neither the cause of the accident could be explained, nor means to prevent a recurrence of it devised, he should almost conclude that architecture was not a science. Some little conference with the jury was necessary, and he would therefore request the public to withdraw.

On being again admitted, the Coroner said that the jury felt with him the extreme importance of the inquiry, and were unanimously of opinion that a letter should be addressed to the Government, requesting that an architect might be sent from the office of Woods and Forests to examine into the cause of the failure, and give evidence to the jury. After taking evidence as to the death of the man, the inquest would be adjourned till Monday week, to be resumed on the spot, at the station, so that if science should be at a loss for the cause, the strong common sense of the jury might lend its aid. He hoped then to have also the assistance of Messrs. Blore, Shaw, and Tite, than whom no men could stand higher.

Mr. W. Cubitt, who was present, offered every assistance in promotion of the inquiry.

EFFLUVIA TRAPS.

SIR,—I observed in a late number of your journal a stirring diagram of a self-acting effluvia trap, registered by Messrs. Bunnet and Corpe, pouring down a splendid shower of mud and water. Permit me to state that I have had a trap, precisely on the same principle, in use in my district of sewers for Surrey and Kent, for upwards of sixteen years. Their agent lately called on me to request I would introduce their invention, but when I shewed him my model, he said that, with the exception of a slight, and that, in my opinion, an objectionable alteration, in the shape of the basin, it was precisely similar; he then took up his traps and walked. Another inventor of effluvia traps, a Mr. Walker, called on me. Immediately he inspected my model, he said, "Had I seen this before, it would have saved me 300*l.* in prosecuting my invention."—I am, &c., JOHN NEWMAN.

Tooley-street, January 17, 1848.

*** Mr. Davis, of Frome, has sent a drawing of a trap registered by him in July last. It is similar to the trap referred to by Mr. Newman, with the addition of a second basin below the first.

WROUGHT-IRON CONSTRUCTIONS.—The same manufacturer who executed the Palm-house at Kew, illustrated last week, is now preparing a roof for the Liverpool terminus of the North-Western Railway, constructed of the same kind of iron (the application of which to that purpose he has patented), to cover a span of 153 feet, without any intermediate support whatever.

* We have to acknowledge the receipt of a number of letters on the subject from men of various degrees, but do not consider it desirable to publish any of them at this moment.

ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS.

VERY considerable dissatisfaction has been expressed by some of our correspondents on the ground that, while the architects who were engaged as surveying officers in inquiries last year, under the "Preliminary Act," had in no case been paid more than five guineas a day, the civil engineers, who were employed on the same errand, claimed and received double that amount. It seems scarcely likely that the Government drew such a distinction: the difference must have originated in the *modesty* of the architects themselves, who have not been on quite so many Government inquiries as the engineers, and were, probably, and very properly, anxious not to overstep the mark.

Correspondence.

PREVENTION OF ROT.

MR. EDITOR,—In answer to your correspondent, "T. G.," as to the best method "to remedy a house that has the dry rot," I would suggest the following as perhaps some of the most simple, but effective modes of remedying, and perhaps overcoming the evil:—In the first place, as far as is practicable, well drain the whole of the land in the vicinity of the house, also insert drains under and through the house, conveying the water away into a main drain or tank, and build dry areas round the house, to prevent the wet and damp soaking through the walls. Dig out and remove the present earth under the several floors of the house down to the foundations, and fill the space in with dry lime, rubbish, and smiths' ashes, and which might be made into a concrete. Well wash the internal walls and timbers, where practicable, with hot lime water and copperas. Rake out the mortar joints of the brick or stone walls throughout the thickness of the walls, at the height of 2 ft. 6 in. or 3 ft. from the ground, and insert sheet lead or plates of zinc, pointing the same carefully with cement; also under the dwarf walls, to receive the sleepers and joists, and under the partitions. Insert air gratings under the several floors, and one of Dr. Arnott's ventilators in the chimney flues of each room, near the ceiling, to carry off the bad and damp air. These appear to be some of the most effectual modes of overcoming the evils complained of, at the same time taking care to admit air to the roof timbers.—I am, Mr. Editor, &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

*** A free circulation of air is the main thing to be attained. We advise "T. G." to call in some respectable architect, so that the cure may be made effectual.

Miscellanea.

PROJECTED WORKS, &c.—Tenders have been called for by advertisement for the erection of a hotel and promenade room at Redcar; a church and parsonage-house at Penge, Kent; an additional court-house and offices, at Swansea; certain alterations, and the erection of certain works at the Hackney Union workhouse, Lower Homerton; the works to be executed in the construction of a floating dock at St. Nazaire, Préfet of the Loire Inferieur (masonry and carpenter's work now estimated at 148,053*l.* odds, workshops and machinery, 7,755*l.* odds, levelments, 62,247*l.* odds): also for the construction of a tunnel at Macclesfield for the London and North Western Railway Company; the erection of workshops in connection with locomotive engine-house at Wellington station, Leeds, for the Leeds and Bradford Railway Company; the work to be done in the erection of a villa and offices at Worcester; the execution of works required in construction of a reservoir for training schools at Swinton; and for a supply of 1,000 tons of unbroken Guernsey granite for Limehouse and St. Pancras.

THE CHIMNEY SHAFT IN KEW GARDENS.—The chimney shaft for the Palm stove at Kew, illustrated last week, is masked by a campanile 17 feet square, constructed of white Southampton bricks with red brick cornice, and surmounted by an octagon turret: the whole height from the ground to the top of the roof of the turret is 90 feet 6 inches.

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